

What to expect when you need Intrathecal Chemotherapy

You will be contacted by an infusion center scheduler once your insurance has approved your specific treatment.

On the day of your appointment:

- Please eat as you normally would.
- Take all of your medications as ordered.
- Please make sure your treatment team has a complete list of the medications you are taking. “Blood thinners” like warfarin, Xarelto, Eliquis, and Pradaxa can increase your risk of complications from a ‘spinal tap’/ lumbar puncture and should be held prior to your procedure. Specific instructions are determined by which medication you are on.
- We will schedule your infusion appointment approximately 1 hour prior to scheduled procedure time. This time is needed for the nurse to verify orders and check dosing calculations, and for the pharmacy to mix the medication in preparation for the doctor.
- Once you have been assigned to a nurse, you will be brought to the intake area where your height, weight and vital signs will be obtained.
- You will then be escorted to your room.
- If you have intravenous medications ordered, the RN will either access your port or place an IV.
- Please be aware that no children under age 12 are allowed in the infusion area.
- Only 2 visitors at a time are allowed in the infusion area.
- Please be prepared for time delays as we are always concerned with the safety of all of our patients and all medication orders need to be verified by pharmacy prior to preparation of the medication.

* We do offer sandwiches for the patient as well as sodas, water and chips.